UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/657,877	09/09/2003	Joe F. Goicoechea	200207903-1	2625

22879   7590   09/13/2007

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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2625	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
09/13/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/657,877	GOICOECHEA, JOE F.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Chad Dickerson	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>09 September 2003</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-45</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-45</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>9/9/2003</u> is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1.   Claims 4 and 19 are objected to because of the following informalities:

- Re claim 4: on the 2nd line of the claim, the phrase "the placement" is suggested

  to be changed to -- a placement --.

- Re claim 19: on the 2nd line of the claim, the phrase "the placement" is suggested

  to be changed to -- a placement --.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by
> another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent
> granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the
> applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section
> 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States
> only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2)
> of such treaty in the English language.

3.   Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 16, 17, 19-23, 36, 37, 39-41 and 43 rejected under 35

U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bhatti '404 (US Pub No 2003/0065404).

Re claim 1: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs

having instructions for determining if a print job designated time sensitive has expired

following a triggering event (i.e. in the system of Bhatti '404, the user has the option to

designate a print job to have an expiration date. If the user designates the print job's

expiration date as never, then the print job is considered not to be designated as time

sensitive, but if a default expiration date is chosen, which is 30, 60, 90 or 180 days, then

the print job is considered to be time sensitive. Also, when looking at the user interface

screen, there are known job storage options available, along with the job retention

option that is considered as the time sensitive option. If the job retention option is not

selected, the print job is not designated as time sensitive. With the software used to

provide this option, the determination is made whether or not the job retention option is

selected and the date tracker (34) used in the system can be implemented on all the

business machines involved in the process in order to determine if a job retention

expiration date has expired. The moment the user designates the job using the job

retention option, this is detected by the user interface (22) setting the designation and

the date tracker (34) that can be present on the printer or computer. This is a

detectable event and is considered as a triggering event. Also, once the print job is

placed on the memory of the printer, this is considered as a triggering event since the

print job is detected to be on the printer's storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs

[0019]-[0028]) and

purging the print job from a memory upon determining the print job has expired

(i.e. in the system, when the determination is made that a print job has expired, the

retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was being held.

This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once it is discovered to be

expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 2: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the medium of claim 1, wherein the print job designated time

sensitive includes expiration data and wherein the instructions for purging the print job

from a memory upon determining the print job has expired include instructions for:

detecting a triggering event (i.e. the moment the user designates the job using

the job retention option, this is detected by the user interface (22) setting the

designation and the date tracker (34) that can be present on the printer or computer.

This is a detectable event and is considered as a triggering event. Also, once the print

job is placed on the memory of the printer, this is considered as a triggering event since

the print job is detected to be on the printer's storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs

[0019]-[0028]);

comparing a time elapsed following a triggering event with a duration specified by

the expiration data (i.e. with the date tracker, the system is constantly reminded of the

current date. The date tracker is used to perform the feature of comparing the job

retention expiration date to the current date to ensure that job retention options may be

implemented on time. Since the triggering event is any detectable event and the

designation of the print job as a job retention job and the storage of the print job are

both detectable events, the comparison of the times occur after the triggering events of

the two examples listed. Therefore, the above claim feature is performed; see figs. 1-3;

paragraphs [0019]-[0028); and

purging the print job if the time elapsed exceeds the duration specified by the

expiration data (i.e. once it is discovered that the current date of the print job has

reached the expiration date set in the job retention expiration date option, the print job is automatically deleted from the storage device. The system performs the feature of deleting the print job once the current time meets or exceeds the expiration date set in the system specified; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 4: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the medium of claim 2, wherein the instructions for detecting a triggering event include instructions for detecting the placement of the print job in the memory (i.e. once the print job is placed in the memory of the printer, the print job is detected to be present since the print job may be a quick copy or a job that needs immediate attention. In order for the printer to know that the print job is on the printer's storage device, it has to detect the placement of the print job on the memory of the printer; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 5: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs having instructions for:

determining if a print job stored in a memory has been designated time sensitive following a triggering event (i.e. in the system, the user sets the print job to be time sensitive when the print job is determined to stored using the job retention option. Using the job retention option and selecting the default option, this designates the print job to be time sensitive. When the print job is sent to the printer, the printer is able to translate the PJL command designating the print job to be designated as time sensitive,

or having an expiration date using the job retention option. The date tracker in the

printer or in other devices in the system can also be used to determine if a stored print

job is time sensitive, since the trackers are used to determine when a print job is

expired. When the printer received the command for the job retention information, the

receipt of the command can be considered as detecting a triggering event; see figs. 1-3;

paragraphs [0019]-[0028]); and

if the print job has been designated time sensitive, obtaining expiration data for

the print job, and, if the print job has expired according to the expiration data, purging

the print job from the memory (i.e. in the system, the date tracker is used to obtain

expiration data for a job to see if that job is designated to be time sensitive, or the job is

utilizing the job retention option. When the determination is made that a print job has

expired, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was

being held. This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once it is

discovered to be expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 6: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the medium of claim 5 having further instructions for detecting a

triggering event and comparing a time elapsed following a triggering event with a

duration specified by the expiration data to determine if the print job has expired (i.e.

(i.e. in the system of Bhatti '404, the user has the option to designate a print job to have

an expiration date. If the user designates the print job's expiration date as never, then

the print job is considered not to be designated as time sensitive, but if a default

expiration date is chosen, which is 30, 60, 90 or 180 days, then the print job is

considered to be time sensitive. Also, when looking at the user interface screen, there

are known job storage options available, along with the job retention option that is

considered as the time sensitive option. If the job retention option is not selected, the

print job is not designated as time sensitive. With the software used to provide this

option, the determination is made whether or not the job retention option is selected and

the date tracker (34) used in the system can be implemented on all the business

machines involved in the process in order to determine if a job retention expiration date

has expired. The moment the user designates the job using the job retention option,

this is detected by the user interface (22) setting the designation and the date tracker

(34) that can be present on the printer or computer. This is a detectable event and is

considered as a triggering event. Also, once the print job is placed on the memory of

the printer, this is considered as a triggering event since the print job is detected to be

on the printer's storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 7: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the medium of claim 5, wherein the memory is a printer memory

and wherein:

the instructions for obtaining expiration data include instructions for obtaining

expiration data relating to a duration that the print job is to be held in the printer memory

(i.e. in the system, when using the job retention option, this option allows the user to

enter in an expiration data, or a period of time the user wishes to have the print job held

in the storage device before being deleted from the printer memory. The computer

program product used in the invention can hold the instructions to be utilized by the

computers in the system for execution; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]); and

the instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print job from the

printer memory (i.e. once the system realizes that a print job has reached or is beyond

the expiration point set for the print job, this print job is automatically deleted from the

storage device storing the print job; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 8: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the medium of claim 5, wherein the memory is a queue and

wherein:

the instructions for obtaining expiration data include instructions for obtaining

expiration data relating to a duration that the print job is to be held in the queue (i.e. in

the system, when using the job retention option, this option allows the user to enter in

an expiration data, or a period of time the user wishes to have the print job held in the

storage device before being deleted from the MFP storage device. Since the MFPs (14)

can be used as business machines that store print job data, the storage device on the

MFP can be considered as the queue, since a queue is basically a FIFO storage device.

The computer program product used in the invention can hold the instructions to be

utilized by the computers in the system for execution; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-

[0028]); and

the instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print job from the

queue (i.e. once the system realizes that a print job has reached or is beyond the

expiration point set for the print job, this print job is automatically deleted from the

storage device of the MFP storing the print job; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 16: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs,

comprising determining if a print job designated as time sensitive has expired following

a triggering event (i.e. in the system of Bhatti '404, the user has the option to designate

a print job to have an expiration date. If the user designates the print job's expiration

date as never, then the print job is considered not to be designated as time sensitive,

but if a default expiration date is chosen, which is 30, 60, 90 or 180 days, then the print

job is considered to be time sensitive. Also, when looking at the user interface screen,

there are known job storage options available, along with the job retention option that is

considered as the time sensitive option. If the job retention option is not selected, the

print job is not designated as time sensitive. With the software used to provide this

option, the determination is made whether or not the job retention option is selected and

the date tracker (34) used in the system can be implemented on all the business

machines involved in the process in order to determine if a job retention expiration date

has expired. The moment the user designates the job using the job retention option,

this is detected by the user interface (22) setting the designation and the date tracker

(34) that can be present on the printer or computer. This is a detectable event and is

considered as a triggering event. Also, once the print job is placed on the memory of

the printer, this is considered as a triggering event since the print job is detected to be

on the printer's storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]) and

purging the print job from a memory upon determining the print job has expired

(i.e. in the system, when the determination is made that a print job has expired, the

retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was being held.

This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once it is discovered to be

expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 17: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 16, wherein the print job designated time

sensitive includes expiration data and wherein purging the print job from a memory

upon determining the print job has expired comprises:

detecting a triggering event (i.e. the moment the user designates the job using

the job retention option, this is detected by the user interface (22) setting the

designation and the date tracker (34) that can be present on the printer or computer.

This is a detectable event and is considered as a triggering event. Also, once the print

job is placed on the memory of the printer, this is considered as a triggering event since

the print job is detected to be on the printer's storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs

[0019]-[0028]);

comparing a time elapsed following the triggering event with a duration specified

by the expiration data (i.e. with the date tracker, the system is constantly reminded of

the current date. The date tracker is used to perform the feature of comparing the job

retention expiration date to the current date to ensure that job retention options may be implemented on time. Since the triggering event is any detectable event and the designation of the print job as a job retention job and the storage of the print job are both detectable events, the comparison of the times occur after the triggering events of the two examples listed. Therefore, the above claim feature is performed; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]); and

purging the print job if the time elapsed exceeds the duration specified by the expiration data (i.e. once it is discovered that the current date of the print job has reached the expiration date set in the job retention expiration date option, the print job is automatically deleted from the storage device. The system performs the feature of deleting the print job once the current time meets or exceeds the expiration date set in the system specified; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 19: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 17, wherein detecting a triggering event comprises detecting the placement of the print job in the memory (i.e. once the print job is placed in the memory of the printer, the print job is detected to be present since the print job may be a quick copy or a job that needs immediate attention. In order for the printer to know that the print job is on the printer's storage device, it has to detect the placement of the print job on the memory of the printer; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 20: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs,

comprising:

determining if a print job stored in a memory has been designated time sensitive

(i.e. in the system, the user sets the print job to be time sensitive when the print job is

determined to stored using the job retention option. Using the job retention option and

selecting the default option, this designates the print job to be time sensitive. When the

print job is sent to the printer, the printer is able to translate the PJL command

designating the print job to be designated as time sensitive, or having an expiration date

using the job retention option. The date tracker in the printer or in other devices in the

system can also be used to determine if a stored print job is time sensitive, since the

trackers are used to determine when a print job is expired. When the printer received

the command for the job retention information, the receipt of the command can be

considered as detecting a triggering event; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]);

if the print job has been designated time sensitive and a triggering event has

occurred, obtaining expiration data associated with the print job, determining if the print

job has expired, and, if the print job has expired according to the expiration data,

purging the print job from the memory (i.e. in the system, the date tracker is used to

obtain expiration data for a job to see if that job is designated to be time sensitive, or the

job is utilizing the job retention option. When the determination is made that a print job

has expired, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job

was being held. This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once the

print job is determined to be expired. Also, when the storage device of the printer

detects a print job for receipt and detects the job retention data by the data tracker, this

is considered to be a triggering event, since the printer and the printer components

detect an event; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 21: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 20, further comprising detecting a triggering

event and comparing a time elapsed following the triggering event with a duration

specified by the expiration data to determine if the print job has expired (i.e. in the

system of Bhatti '404, the user has the option to designate a print job to have an

expiration date. If the user designates the print job's expiration date as never, then the

print job is considered not to be designated as time sensitive, but if a default expiration

date is chosen, which is 30, 60, 90 or 180 days, then the print job is considered to be

time sensitive. Also, when looking at the user interface screen, there are known job

storage options available, along with the job retention option that is considered as the

time sensitive option. If the job retention option is not selected, the print job is not

designated as time sensitive. With the software used to provide this option, the

determination is made whether or not the job retention option is selected and the date

tracker (34) used in the system can be implemented on all the business machines

involved in the process in order to determine if a job retention expiration date has

expired. The moment the user designates the job using the job retention option, this is

detected by the user interface (22) setting the designation and the date tracker (34) that

can be present on the printer or computer. This is a detectable event and is considered

as a triggering event. Also, once the print job is placed on the memory of the printer,

this is considered as a triggering event since the print job is detected to be on the

printer's storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 22: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 20, wherein the memory is a printer memory

and wherein:

obtaining expiration data comprises obtaining expiration data relating to a

duration that the print job is to be held in the printer memory (i.e. in the system, when

using the job retention option, this option allows the user to enter in an expiration data,

or a period of time the user wishes to have the print job held in the storage device

before being deleted from the printer memory. The computer program product used in

the invention can hold the instructions to be utilized by the computers in the system for

execution; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]); and

purging comprises purging the print job from the printer memory (i.e. once the

system realizes that a print job has reached or is beyond the expiration point set for the

print job, this print job is automatically deleted from the storage device storing the print

job; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 23: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 20, wherein the memory is a queue and

wherein:

obtaining expiration data comprises obtaining expiration data relating to a duration that the print job is to be held in the queue (i.e. in the system, when using the job retention option, this option allows the user to enter in an expiration data, or a period of time the user wishes to have the print job held in the storage device before being deleted from the MFP storage device. Since the MFPs (14) can be used as business machines that store print job data, the storage device on the MFP can be considered as the queue, since a queue is basically a FIFO storage device. The computer program product used in the invention can hold the instructions to be utilized by the computers in the system for execution; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]); and

purging comprise purging the print job from the queue (i.e. once the system realizes that a print job has reached or is beyond the expiration point set for the print job, this print job is automatically deleted from the storage device of the MFP storing the print job; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 36: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs, comprising:

a queue for temporarily holding a print job (i.e. with a queue being used to store information to be processed later, any storage device used in the system can be used as a queue. The storage device on the MFP is considered to be a queue and this can hold print jobs temporarily since the print jobs have an expiration date designated for them; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]); and

a queue manager capable of determining if the print job held in the queue is time

sensitive, and, if time sensitive, determining if the print job has expired, and purging the

print job from the queue if the time sensitive print job has expired (i.e. the date tracker

can be considered as the queue manger since it performs the feature of determining if

the print job held in the queue is a job retention job, considered as a time sensitive job,

and also determines based on the current time if the print job is expired. The date

tracker ensures that if a print job is expired, the print job is deleted from the storage

device that stores the print job; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 37: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the print server of claim 36, wherein the print job is time sensitive

and includes expiration data and wherein the queue manager is operable to determine if

the print job has expired by:

detecting a triggering event (i.e. the moment the user designates the job using

the job retention option, this is detected by the user interface (22) setting the

designation and the date tracker (34) that can be present on the printer or computer.

This is a detectable event and is considered as a triggering event. Also, once the print

job is placed on the memory of the printer, this is considered as a triggering event since

the print job is detected to be on the printer's storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs

[0019]-[0028]); and

comparing a time elapsed following the triggering event with a duration specified

by the expiration data (i.e. with the date tracker, the system is constantly reminded of

the current date. The date tracker is used to perform the feature of comparing the job

retention expiration date to the current date to ensure that job retention options may be

implemented on time. Since the triggering event is any detectable event and the

designation of the print job as a job retention job and the storage of the print job are

both detectable events, the comparison of the times occur after the triggering events of

the two examples listed. Therefore, the above claim feature is performed; see figs. 1-3;

paragraphs [0019]-[0028).

Re claim 39: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the server of claim 37 wherein the triggering event is a placement

of the print job in the queue (i.e. since a triggering event is any detectable event, the

storage device in the printer or the MFP detects information being stored on one of the

storage devices. The date tracker on the same devices also is used to detect the

placement of a job that has been designated by the job retention option; see figs. 1-3;

paragraphs [0018]-[0032]).

Re claim 40: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs,

comprising:

        a print engine capable of printing information on print media (i.e. in all printers,

there are printer engines that are used to print information on print media. It is

understood that since Bhatti '404 uses a printer in the system, it also has a print engine

capable of printing information; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]);

a memory manager capable of storing a print job in a memory, routing the print

job from the memory to the print engine, and purging the print job from the memory (i.e.

in the system, the printer is able to store a print job in the storage device in the printer or

MFP, the printer is also able to route a print job on the memory to the printer engine of

the printer for printing, since an electronic document that is stored can be reviewed at a

user interface on the printer and printed in hard copy form. Also, since the printer is

able to have a date tracker on the device, the printer is able to delete print jobs from the

memory once the expiration date of a print job is reached or exceeded by the system.

Although a memory manger is not specifically disclosed, the features of the memory

manager are performed by the invention; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0002]-[0007] and

[0019]-[0028]); and

a recovery feature capable of identifying whether the print job held in the memory

is time sensitive, and, if time sensitive and if a triggering event has occurred,

determining if the print job has expired, and instructing the memory manager to purge

the print job from the memory if the time sensitive print job has expired (i.e. in the

system, the determination of the print job being designated by the job retention option,

is performed by the date tracker used on the MFP or the printer. This performs the

feature of identifying if the print job held in the memory has an expiration date, or is time

sensitive. If the print job is time sensitive, or designated by the job retention option, and

has been detected to be stored in the respective storage device, considered as a

triggering event, the date tracker can determine if the print job is expired or not. Once

the print job has reached or exceeded the expiration date, the print job is deleted from

the storage device of the printer or MFP. Although a recovery feature is not specifically

disclosed, the features of the recovery feature are all performed; see figs. 1-3;

paragraphs [0018]-[0032]).

Re claim 41: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the device of claim 40, wherein the print job is time sensitive and

includes expiration data and wherein the recovery feature is operable to determine if the

print job has expired by:

    detecting a triggering event (i.e. the moment the user designates the job using

the job retention option, this is detected by the user interface (22) setting the

designation and the date tracker (34) that can be present on the printer or computer.

This is a detectable event and is considered as a triggering event. Also, once the print

job is placed on the memory of the printer, this is considered as a triggering event since

the print job is detected to be on the printer's storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs

[0019]-[0028]); and

    comparing a time elapsed following the triggering event with a duration specified

by the expiration data (i.e. with the date tracker, the system is constantly reminded of

the current date. The date tracker is used to perform the feature of comparing the job

retention expiration date to the current date to ensure that job retention options may be

implemented on time. Since the triggering event is any detectable event and the

designation of the print job as a job retention job and the storage of the print job are

both detectable events, the comparison of the times occur after the triggering events of

the two examples listed. Therefore, the above claim feature is performed; see figs. 1-3;

paragraphs [0019]-[0028).

Re claim 43: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs,

comprising:

a memory for storing a print job (i.e. the printer has a storage device that is used

for storing print jobs sent to the printer; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]);

a print engine capable of printing information on print media (i.e. in all printers,

there are printer engines that are used to print information on print media. It is

understood that since Bhatti '404 uses a printer in the system, it also has a print engine

capable of printing information; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]);

a memory manager capable of storing the print job in the memory, routing the

print job from the memory to the print engine, and purging the print job from the memory

(i.e. in the system, the printer is able to store a print job in the storage device in the

printer or MFP, the printer is also able to route a print job on the memory to the printer

engine of the printer for printing, since an electronic document that is stored can be

reviewed at a user interface on the printer and printed in hard copy form. Also, since

the printer is able to have a date tracker on the device, the printer is able to delete print

jobs from the memory once the expiration date of a print job is reached or exceeded by

the system. Although a memory manger is not specifically disclosed, the features of the

memory manager are performed by the invention; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0002]-

[0007] and [0019]-[0028]); and

a recovery feature capable of identifying a printer malfunction, identifying whether

the print job held in the memory is time sensitive, and, if time sensitive, instructing the

memory manager to purge the print job from the memory if the time sensitive print job

expires before the malfunction is remedied (i.e. in the system, the determination of the

print job being designated by the job retention option, is performed by the date tracker

used on the MFP or the printer. This performs the feature of identifying if the print job

held in the memory has an expiration date, or is time sensitive. If the print job is time

sensitive, or designated by the job retention option, and has been detected to be stored

in the respective storage device, considered as a triggering event, the date tracker can

determine if the print job is expired or not. Once the print job has reached or exceeded

the expiration date, the print job is deleted from the storage device of the printer or

MFP. Although a recovery feature is not specifically disclosed, the features of the

recovery feature are all performed; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032]).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5.   Claims 3, 9-15, 18, 24-35, 38, 42, 44 and 45 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as

being unpatentable over Bhatti '404 in view of Schroath '995 (US Pub No

2003/0105995).

Re claim 3: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of are disclosed above.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach the medium of claim 2, wherein the instructions for detecting a triggering event include instructions for detecting a malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath '995 discloses the instructions for detecting a triggering event include instructions for detecting a malfunction (i.e. in the system of Schroath '995, the detection of a malfunction in the printer occurs and the system gives instructions to the printer to detect if there is an error occurring in the printer. Since the triggering event is considered to be a malfunction in the printer, the above claim feature is performed; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0027]-[0032]).

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have instructions for detecting a triggering event include instructions for detecting a malfunction in order to detect if the printer has an error (as stated in Schroath '995 paragraph [0027]).

Re claim 9: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs having instructions for:

presenting a user interface having user accessible controls for designating the print job as time sensitive and for specifying expiration data (i.e. the MFP (14) is presented with the user interface that gives the user the option to designate a job with

the job retention option. This option is used to designate when a print job should be deleted from the storage device the job is held, which is considered as designating a print job to be time sensitive. The job retention option sets or specifies an expiration date for the print job, which is considered as expiration data; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]); and

if so selected through the interface, designating the print job as time sensitive and including expiration data with the print job (i.e. if the option of job retention is selected, the user also designates the actual expiration date for the print job. Once the expiration date is set, this is sent with the print job to the storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document and translating the instructions into a print job.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath '995 discloses receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document (i.e. the computer or server in the system have an application program used to create documents and send instructions to the printing device through a server or directly to a printer to print an electronic document. The printer is used in the system to receive print jobs from either source and to print the jobs. The jobs are electronic documents sent from the server or computer to the printer; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032]); and

translating the instructions into a print job (i.e. the instructions sent over to the printer are translated by the formatter, so that the printer engine can understand the print job before printing the received job; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032]).

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the instructions of receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document and translating the instructions into a print job in order to have a printer receive print jobs from any device (as stated in Schroath '995 paragraph [0021]).

Re claim 10: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the medium of claim 9, wherein the instructions for presenting include instructions for presenting a user interface having user accessible controls for designating the print job as time sensitive and for specifying expiration data (i.e. with the use of the user interface shown in figure 2, the user is able to designate a print job as time sensitive through the job retention option and to specify an expiration date, considered as expiration data, for the print job stored in a storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]) relating to a first duration for holding the print job in printer memory and a second duration for holding the print job in a queue (i.e. since the printer and the MFPs have different storage devices, these devices can be considered to have their own expiration dates, or duration of holding the print jobs. With the printer memory, the print job can be held in a default manner of 30 days in the job retention option and in the MFP, the job can be held in a manner of 60 days until the print jobs expire and are deleted from both respective memories; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 11: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs

having instructions for:

a print job stored in a memory (i.e. in Bhatti '404, the print job is stored in a

storage device present on several devices; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]);

determining if the print job has expired (i.e. using the date tracker, the system

determines if the print job is expire be utilizing the job retention expiration date set. This

is performed in figure 2; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]) and

if expired, purging the print job from the memory (i.e. the system automatically

deletes the stored print job if the expiration date for the print job is met or exceeded by

the current time read by the date tracker; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach identifying a malfunction that prevents a print

job stored in a memory from being printed and upon identifying the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath

'995 discloses identifying a malfunction that prevents a print job stored in a memory

from being printed (i.e. in the system of Schroath '995, a malfunction is detected or

identified in the printer and the print job is being prevented from being printed because

of the error detected. The print job sent over to the printer is stored in the computer that

sends the information to the printer. However, the feature of identifying a malfunction

that prevents the print job from being printed combined with the feature of Bhatti '404

that has the print job stored in printer memory performs the above claim feature; see

figs. 1-3 and 5; paragraphs [0018]-[0032]) and upon identifying the malfunction (i.e. the

printer has an error identification module that identifies printer errors and is logged in an error log; see figs. 1-3 and 5; paragraphs [0018]-[0032]).

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the instructions of identifying a malfunction that prevents a print job stored in a memory from being printed and upon identifying the malfunction in order to identify printer errors in the system (as stated in Schroath '995 paragraph [0026]).

Re claim 12: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.
Bhatti '404 discloses the medium of claim 11 having further instructions for determining if the print job has been designated as a time sensitive (i.e. in the system, the user sets the print job to be time sensitive when the print job is determined to stored using the job retention option. Using the job retention option and selecting the default option, this designates the print job to be time sensitive. When the print job is sent to the printer, the printer is able to translate the PJL command designating the print job to be designated as time sensitive, or having an expiration date using the job retention option. The date tracker in the printer or in other devices in the system can also be used to determine if a stored print job is time sensitive, since the trackers are used to determine when a print job is expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]), and wherein the instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print job only if it has been designated as a time sensitive print job (i.e. in the system, the date tracker is used to obtain expiration data for a job to see if that job is designated to be time sensitive, or the

job is utilizing the job retention option. When the determination is made that a print job

has expired, the retained job is automatically deleted from the storage that the print job

was being held. This performs the feature of purging a print job from memory once it is

discovered to be expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 13: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the medium of claim 11 wherein the memory is a queue and

wherein the instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print job from the

queue (i.e. since the storage device can be placed on the MFP (14), the MFP with the

storage device is considered as the queue. Once the data tracker tracks that a print job

is at or beyond the expiration date that was set during the job retention option, the job is

deleted from the storage device of the MFP. The instructions are given from the

computer program product used in the device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 14: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the medium of claim 11 wherein the memory is a printer memory

and wherein the instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print job

from the printer memory (i.e. when the date tracker tracks that a print job stored on the

printer memory device is expired, the print job is deleted from the printer memory. The

instructions are given from the computer program product used in the device; see figs.

1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 15: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the medium of claim 11 having further instructions for notifying a

user if the print job has been purged (i.e. the user can be notified of the expiration and

deletion of the print job by the user interface (22) or on the user's computer; see figs. 1-

3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 18: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach the method of claim 17, wherein detecting a

triggering event comprises detecting a malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath

'995 discloses detecting a triggering event comprises detecting a malfunction (i.e. in the

system of Schroath '995, the detection of a malfunction in the printer occurs and the

system gives instructions to the printer to detect if there is an error occurring in the

printer. Since the triggering event is considered to be a malfunction in the printer, the

above claim feature is performed; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0027]-[0032]).

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method steps for detecting

a triggering event include instructions for detecting a malfunction in order to detect if the

printer has an error (as stated in Schroath '995 paragraph [0027]).

Re claim 24: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs,

comprising:

presenting a user interface having user accessible controls for designating the

print job as time sensitive and for specifying expiration data (i.e. the MFP (14) is

presented with the user interface that gives the user the option to designate a job with

the job retention option. This option is used to designate when a print job should be

deleted from the storage device the job is held, which is considered as designating a

print job to be time sensitive. The job retention option sets or specifies an expiration

date for the print job, which is considered as expiration data; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs

[0019]-[0028]); and

if so selected through the interface, designating the print job as time sensitive

and including expiration data with the print job (i.e. if the option of job retention is

selected, the user also designates the actual expiration date for the print job. Once the

expiration date is set, this is sent with the print job to the storage device; see figs. 1-3;

paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach receiving instructions from an application to

print an electronic document and translating the instructions into a print job.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath

'995 discloses receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document

(i.e. the computer or server in the system have an application program used to create

documents and send instructions to the printing device through a server or directly to a

printer to print an electronic document. The printer is used in the system to receive print

jobs from either source and to print the jobs. The jobs are electronic documents sent

from the server or computer to the printer; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032]); and

translating the instructions into a print job (i.e. the instructions sent over to the

printer are translated by the formatter, so that the printer engine can understand the

print job before printing the received job; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032]).

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have method steps of receiving

instructions from an application to print an electronic document and translating the

instructions into a print job in order to have a printer receive print jobs from any device

(as stated in Schroath '995 paragraph [0021]).

Re claim 25: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 24, wherein presenting comprises presenting

a user interface having user accessible controls for designating the print job as time

sensitive and for specifying expiration data (i.e. with the use of the user interface shown

in figure 2, the user is able to designate a print job as time sensitive through the job

retention option and to specify an expiration date, considered as expiration data, for the

print job stored in a storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]) relating to a

first duration for holding the print job in printer memory and a second duration for

holding the print job in a queue (i.e. since the printer and the MFPs have different

storage devices, these devices can be considered to have their own expiration dates, or

duration of holding the print jobs. With the printer memory, the print job can be held in a

default manner of 30 days in the job retention option and in the MFP, the job can be

held in a manner of 60 days until the print jobs expire and are deleted from both

respective memories; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 26: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs,

comprising:

a print job stored in a memory (i.e. in Bhatti '404, the print job is stored in a

storage device present on several devices; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]);

determining if the stored print job has expired (i.e. using the date tracker, the

system determines if the print job is expire be utilizing the job retention expiration date

set. This is performed in figure 2; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]); and

if expired, purging the print job from the memory (i.e. the system automatically

deletes the stored print job if the expiration date for the print job is met or exceeded by

the current time read by the date tracker; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach identifying a printer malfunction that prevents

a print job stored in a memory from being printed and upon identifying the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath

'995 discloses identifying a printer malfunction that prevents a print job stored in a

memory from being printed (i.e. in the system of Schroath '995, a malfunction is

detected or identified in the printer and the print job is being prevented from being

printed because of the error detected. The print job sent over to the printer is stored in

the computer that sends the information to the printer. However, the feature of

identifying a malfunction that prevents the print job from being printed combined with the

feature of Bhatti '404 that has the print job stored in printer memory performs the above

claim feature; see figs. 1-3 and 5; paragraphs [0018]-[0032]) and upon identifying the

malfunction (i.e. the printer has an error identification module that identifies printer

errors and is logged in an error log; see figs. 1-3 and 5; paragraphs [0018]-[0032]).

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method steps of identifying

a printer malfunction that prevents a print job stored in a memory from being printed and

upon identifying the malfunction in order to identify printer errors in the system (as

stated in Schroath '995 paragraph [0026]).

Re claim 27: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs

comprises:

determining if the print job has been designated as time sensitive (i.e. in the

system, the user sets the print job to be time sensitive when the print job is determined

to stored using the job retention option. Using the job retention option and selecting the

default option, this designates the print job to be time sensitive. When the print job is

sent to the printer, the printer is able to translate the PJL command designating the print

job to be designated as time sensitive, or having an expiration date using the job

retention option. The date tracker in the printer or in other devices in the system can

also be used to determine if a stored print job is time sensitive, since the trackers are

used to determine when a print job is expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]);

and

purging the print job only if it has been designated as a time sensitive print job

(i.e. in the system, the date tracker is used to obtain expiration data for a job to see if

that job is designated to be time sensitive, or the job is utilizing the job retention option.

When the determination is made that a print job has expired, the retained job is

automatically deleted from the storage that the print job was being held. This performs

the feature of purging a print job from memory once it is discovered to be expired; see

figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 28: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 26 wherein the memory is a queue, and

wherein purging the print job includes purging the print job from the queue (i.e. since the

storage device can be placed on the MFP (14), the MFP with the storage device is

considered as the queue. Once the data tracker tracks that a print job is at or beyond

the expiration date that was set during the job retention option, the job is deleted from

the storage device of the MFP. The instructions are given from the computer program

product used in the device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 29: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 26, wherein the memory is a printer memory,

and wherein purging the expired print job includes purging the expired print job from the

printer memory (i.e. when the date tracker tracks that a print job stored on the printer

memory device is expired, the print job is deleted from the printer memory. The

instructions are given from the computer program product used in the device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 30: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 26, further comprising notifying a user that the print job has been purged (i.e. the user can be notified of the expiration and deletion of the print job by the user interface (22) or on the user's computer; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 31: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs, comprising:

designating the print job as a time sensitive print job (i.e. in the system of Bhatti '404, the user has the option to designate a print job to have an expiration date. If the user designates the print job's expiration date as never, then the print job is considered not to be designated as time sensitive, but if a default expiration date is chosen, which is 30, 60, 90 or 180 days, then the print job is considered to be time sensitive. Also, when looking at the user interface screen, there are known job storage options available, along with the job retention option that is considered as the time sensitive option. If the job retention option is not selected, the print job is not designated as time sensitive; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]);

queuing the time sensitive print job (i.e. in the system, the print job designated to be stored using the job retention option is considered to be a time sensitive print job.

This print job is stored, or queued, in the respective MFP device or some other location

that stores the print jobs; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]);

and purging the time sensitive print job within a set time (i.e. if the print job has a

set expiration date and is not deleted before the expiration date, the print job is then

deleted within the time set to delete the print job; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-

[0028]).

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach detecting a malfunction that prevents the time

sensitive print job from being printed and purging the time sensitive print job if the

malfunction is not remedied within a set time.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath

'995 discloses detecting a malfunction that prevents the time sensitive print job from

being printed (i.e. the print error identification module detects a printer error or

malfunction that prevents the print job from being printed in the system. This detection

is used in fixing the printer error. With the feature of detecting the malfunction that

prevents a print job from being printed combined with the feature of having a time

sensitive print job of Bhatti '404, the above claim feature is performed; see figs. 1-3;

paragraphs [0018]-[[0032]) and

purging the time sensitive print job if the malfunction is not remedied within a set

time (i.e. in the system of Schroath '995, if the same error occurs a certain amount of

times within a set time period (i.e. like X minutes), the system deletes the print job once

the printer discovers that the printer error or malfunction has not been fixed. This

performs the feature of deleting the print job if the malfunction is not remedied within a

set time. This feature combined with the feature of having a time sensitive print job of

Bhatti '404, the above claim feature is performed; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-

[[0032]]).

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method steps of detecting

a malfunction that prevents the time sensitive print job from being printed and purging

the time sensitive print job if the malfunction is not remedied within a set time in order to

have a process performed for handling printer errors (as stated in Schroath '995

paragraph [0027]).

Re claim 32: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 31, further comprising:

sending the queued time sensitive print job to a printer memory (i.e. in Bhatti

'404, the print jobs that are designated by the job retention option can be sent to the

printer memory, or any other memory used in the system; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs

[0019]-[0028]);

purging the printer memory of the time sensitive print job within a set time (i.e.

the print job in the printer memory that is designated by the job retention option as

having an expiration date, is deleted once the expiration date is reached or exceeded.

The expiration date can be considered the set time the print job is deleted within; see

figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach detecting a malfunction that prevents the time

sensitive print job in the printer memory from being printed; and purging the printer

memory of the time sensitive print job if the malfunction is not remedied within a set

time.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath

'995 discloses detecting a malfunction that prevents the time sensitive print job in the

printer memory from being printed (i.e. the print error identification module detects a

printer error or malfunction that prevents the print job from being printed in the system.

This detection is used in fixing the printer error. With the feature of detecting the

malfunction that prevents a print job from being printed combined with the feature of

having a time sensitive print job of Bhatti '404, the above claim feature is performed; see

figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[[0032]) and

purging the printer memory of the time sensitive print job if the malfunction is not

remedied within a set time (i.e. in the system of Schroath '995, if the same error occurs

a certain amount of times within a set time period (i.e. like X minutes), the system

deletes the print job once the printer discovers that the printer error or malfunction has

not been fixed. This performs the feature of deleting the print job if the malfunction is

not remedied within a set time. This feature combined with the feature of having a time

sensitive print job of Bhatti '404, the above claim feature is performed; see figs. 1-3;

paragraphs [0018]-[[0032]).

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method steps of detecting

a malfunction that prevents the time sensitive print job in the printer memory from being printed; and purging the printer memory of the time sensitive print job if the malfunction is not remedied within a set time in order to have a process performed for handling printer errors (as stated in Schroath '995 paragraph [0027]).

Re claim 33: The teachings of Bhatti '404 in view of Schroath '995 are disclosed above. Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 31, further comprising notifying a user if the print job has been purged (i.e. the user can be notified of the expiration and deletion of the print job by the user interface (22) or on the user's computer; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

Re claim 34: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.
Bhatti '404 discloses the method of claim 31, further comprising associating expiration data with the time sensitive print job (i.e. when a user has designated a print job to be a job retention job, the user associates an expiration date, or data, with the print job; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]), and using the expiration data to determine if the time sensitive print job has expired, and wherein purging comprises purging the time sensitive print job only if it has expired (i.e. the system automatically deletes the stored print job if the expiration date for the print job is met or exceeded by the current time read by the date tracker. The date tracker uses the expiration date, or data, to determine if a print job has expired; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach after detecting the malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath

'995 discloses after detecting the malfunction (i.e. the print error identification module

detects a printer error or malfunction that prevents the print job from being printed in the

system. This detection is used in fixing the printer error. With the feature of detecting

the malfunction that prevents a print job from being printed combined with the feature of

having a time sensitive print job of Bhatti '404, the above claim feature is performed; see

figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[[0032]).

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method step of after

detecting the malfunction in order to have a process performed for handling printer

errors (as stated in Schroath '995 paragraph [0027]).

Re claim 35: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs,

comprising:

of allowing a user to designate the print job as time sensitive and to specify

expiration data for the print job (i.e. the MFP (14) is presented with the user interface

that gives the user the option to designate a job with the job retention option. This

option is used to designate when a print job should be deleted from the storage device

the job is held, which is considered as designating a print job to be time sensitive. The

job retention option sets or specifies an expiration date for the print job, which is

considered as expiration data; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach an application capable of instructing an electronic document to be printed and a driver capable of translating printing instructions from an application into a print job.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath '995 discloses an application capable of instructing an electronic document to be printed (i.e. the computer or server in the system have an application program used to create documents and send instructions to the printing device through a server or directly to a printer to print an electronic document. The printer is used in the system to receive print jobs from either source and to print the jobs. The jobs are electronic documents sent from the server or computer to the printer; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032]); and

a driver capable of translating printing instructions from an application into a print job (i.e. the instructions sent over to the printer are translated by the formatter, so that the printer engine can understand the print job before printing the received job. Since the formatter performs the translation of printing instructions into a print job, the formatter is considered analogous to the driver; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032]).

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method step of an application capable of instructing an electronic document to be printed and a driver capable of translating printing instructions from an application into a print job in order to have a printer receive print jobs from any device (as stated in Schroath '995 paragraph [0021]).

Re claim 38: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach the server of claim 37 wherein the triggering event is a malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath '995 discloses the triggering event is a malfunction (i.e. in Schroath '995, an event that triggers the printer error identification is simply a printer error, which is considered as a malfunction. The malfunction is something that prevents the printer from printing; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032]).

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have a triggering event is a malfunction in order to detect a printer error in the printer (as stated in Schroath '995 paragraph [0027]).

Re claim 42: The teachings of Bhatti '404 are disclosed above.

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach the device of claim 41 wherein the triggering event is a malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath '995 discloses the triggering event is a malfunction (i.e. in Schroath '995, an event that triggers the printer error identification is simply a printer error, which is considered as a malfunction. The malfunction is something that prevents the printer from printing; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032]).

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the triggering event is a malfunction in order to detect a printer error in the printer (as stated in Schroath '995 paragraph [0027]).

Re claim 44: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs, comprising:

a means for presenting a user interface having user accessible controls for designating the print job as time sensitive and for specifying expiration data (i.e. the MFP (14) is presented with the user interface that gives the user the option to designate a job with the job retention option. This option is used to designate when a print job should be deleted from the storage device the job is held, which is considered as designating a print job to be time sensitive. The job retention option sets or specifies an expiration date for the print job, which is considered as expiration data; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]); and

a means for designating the print job as time sensitive and including expiration data with the print job if so selected through the interface (i.e. if the option of job retention is selected, the user also designates the actual expiration date for the print job. Once the expiration date is set, this is sent with the print job to the storage device; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0028]).

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach a means for receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document and a means for translating the instructions into a print job.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath '995 discloses a means for receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document (i.e. the computer or server in the system have an application program used to create documents and send instructions to the printing device through a server or directly to a printer to print an electronic document. The printer is used in the system to receive print jobs from either source and to print the jobs. The jobs are electronic documents sent from the server or computer to the printer; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032]) and

a means for translating the instructions into a print job (i.e. the instructions sent over to the printer are translated by the formatter, so that the printer engine can understand the print job before printing the received job. Since the formatter performs the translation of printing instructions into a print job, the formatter is considered analogous to the driver; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0018]-[0032]).

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to a means for receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document and a means for translating the instructions into a print job in order to have a printer receive print jobs from any device (as stated in Schroath '995 paragraph [0021]).

Re claim 45: Bhatti '404 discloses an apparatus and method for controlling stored jobs,

comprising:

a means for storing the print job in memory (i.e. the printer has a storage device

that is used for storing print jobs sent to the printer; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-

[0028]);

a means for determining, if the stored print job has expired (i.e. using the date

tracker, the system determines if the print job is expire be utilizing the job retention

expiration date set. This is performed in figure 2; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-

[0028]); and

a means for purging the print job, if expired, from memory (i.e. the system

automatically deletes the stored print job if the expiration date for the print job is met or

exceeded by the current time read by the date tracker; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-

[0028]).

However, Bhatti '404 fails to teach a means for identifying a printer malfunction

that prevents the stored print job from being printed and upon identifying the

malfunction.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Schroath '995. Schroath

'995 discloses a means for identifying a printer malfunction that prevents the stored print

job from being printed (i.e. in the system of Schroath '995, a malfunction is detected or

identified in the printer and the print job is being prevented from being printed because

of the error detected. The print job sent over to the printer is stored in the computer that

sends the information to the printer. However, the feature of identifying a malfunction

that prevents the print job from being printed combined with the feature of Bhatti '404

that has the print job stored in printer memory performs the above claim feature; see

figs. 1-3 and 5; paragraphs [0018]-[0032]); and

upon identifying the malfunction (i.e. the printer has an error identification module

that identifies printer errors and is logged in an error log; see figs. 1-3 and 5; paragraphs

[0018]-[0032]).

Therefore, in view of Schroath '995, it would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have a means for identifying a

printer malfunction that prevents the stored print job from being printed and upon

identifying the malfunction in order to identify printer errors in the system (as stated in

Schroath '995 paragraph [0026]).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Chad Dickerson whose telephone number is (571)-270-

1351. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. thru Thur. 9:00-6:30 Fri. 9:00-

5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Aung Moe can be reached on (571)- 272-7314. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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CD/

Chad Dickerson

August 28, 2007

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